

## Message Text

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15

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /098 W

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R 162342Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2979

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5089

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PGOV FR CN UN

SUBM: CMOROS ISLANDS

REF: STATE 245520

1. SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS MET 16 OCTOBER TO CONSULT ON OPTIMUM TIME FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF THE COMOROS APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE UN. SWEDISH PRESIDENT RYDBECK SAID HE HAD EARLIER CONDUCTED CONSULTATIONS WITH INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBERS ON TIMING BEARING IN MIND THE NEED THAT "NEXT WEEK WE MUST DEVOTE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REPORT ON UNEF", WHICH HE SAID WOULD BE CIRCULATED 17 OCTOBER. RYDBECK ALSO COMMENTED THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAS RECEIVED A LETTER FROM THE COMOROAN CHIEF OF STATE ASKING FOR SPEEDY CONSIDERATION OF THE APPLICATION.

2. FRANCE (CHARGE LECOMPT) NOTED THAT THE FRENCH DELEGATION HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS BECAUSE OF THE VISIT TO THE USSR OF THE FRENCH PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN MINISTER. THERE WAS NO REAL SUBSTANTIVE DIFFERENCE OF VIEWS, LECOMPT SAID, ALTHOUGH FRANCE HAD ONE OR TWO PRACTICAL PROBLEMS; NEGOTIATIONS  
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WITH THE COMOROS ARE CONTINUING. HE ANTICIPATED RECEIVING

INSTRUCTIONS ON 17 OCTOBER AND FRANCE WOULD THEREFORE AGREE TO THE COUNCIL'S MEETING AND DISPOSING OF THE APPLICATION THIS WEEK. HE ASKED THAT THE COUNCIL'S SCHEDULE FOR 17 OCTOBER SHOULD BEGIN WITH INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS DURING WHICH HE WOULD MAKE THE FRENCH POSITION CLEAR.

3. TANZANIA (SALIM) SUPPORTED THE COMORAN APPLICATION AND ASKED THAT THE MATTER BE CONCLUDED THIS WEEK.

4. THE PRESIDENT THEN PROPOSED AND OBTAINED AGREEMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE FOR THE 17TH: CONSULTATIONS AT 11:00 AM, SC MEETING AT 11:30 TO REFER THE APPLICATION TO THE ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE; ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER; AND SC MEETING TO RECEIVE THE ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE REPORT AND VOTE ON THE APPLICATION IN THE AFTERNOON.

6. IN AN EARLIER CONVERSATION, LECOMPT TOLD AMBASSADOR BENNETT THAT FRANCE WILL BE INSTRUCTED NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VOTE ON THE COMORAN APPLICATION. ON THE OTHER HAND, FRANCE EXPECTS THAT ALL OTHER MEMBERS WOULD WISH TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE APPLICATION AND FRANCE WOULD BE GLAD TO HAVE THE US MAKE THE CUSTOMARY STATEMENT IN THE COUNCIL TO WELCOME THE COMOROS. THE BRITISH SEPARATELY TOLD US THAT THIS IS THEIR INTENTION; THEY WILL OF COURSE NOT GO INTO SUCH DETAIL AS TO DESCRIBE TO COMOROS AS THE THREE-OR FOUR-ISLAND STATE.

7. WE UNDERSTAND TANZANIA AND MOZAMBIQUE HAVE BEEN ACTIVE WITH OTHER MISSIONS IN COMPETITIVELY URGING SPEEDY AFFIRMATIVE ACTION ON THE APPLICATION. EACH IS APPARENTLY SEEKING TO BE THE BEST "FRIEND" OF THE COMOROS.

8. COMMENT: IN VIEW OF THE FRENCH REQUEST AND BRITISH AGREEMENT, WE RELUCTANTLY RECOMMEND THAT THE US JOIN IN VOTING FOR AND WELCOMING THE COMOROS. THERE IS NO OPPOSITION NOR, IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, ANY POSSIBILITY OF A LEGAL OPINION QUESTIONING COMORAN STATEHOOD IN THE LIGHT OF THE EXPECTED IF TARDY ACHIEVEMENT OF FRENCH-COMORAN AGREEMENT ON INDEPENDENCE.

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## Message Attributes

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